

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the existing Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

Whole body cooling of a patient is obtained by providing a catheter with a conductive heat transfer element at a distal end thereof, inserting the catheter and heat transfer element into the vascular system of the patient and utilizing the heat transfer element to modify the temperature of blood which flows in heat exchange proximity to the heat transfer element, such that the modification of the blood will accomplish whole body cooling of the patient. The conductive metallic heat transfer element includes a plurality of heat transfer segments, and at least one helical ridge and at least one helical groove formed on each of the plurality of heat transfer segments.